

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings including changes to Figs. 19-22, 25, 52, replace the original sheets including Figs. 19-22, 25, and 26A-C, 52 and 53A-C. The drawings have been corrected so as to provide appropriate hatching. In addition the lead lines for reference numeral 51 in Figure 25 and reference numeral 131 in Figure 52 have been corrected.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments is courteously solicited.

With regard to the examiners drawing correction Applicant submits herewith replacement sheets for Figures 19-22, 25, 26A-26C, 52, and 53A-C. The drawings have been corrected so as to provide appropriate hatching. Specifically note the protrusion 40 in Figure 21. In addition the lead lines for reference numeral 51 in Figure 25 and reference numeral 131 in Figure 52 have been corrected. Finally with regard to the examiner's specific inquiry, the following should be noted:

(1) although claim 5 was canceled, the "excessive liquid receiving portion" set forth in the original claim 5 means the adhesive relief portion 5;

(2) although claim 3 was canceled, the gap set forth in the original claim 3 means a space formed between the plate member 1 and the lid member 2 around the fine groove 3, i.e., a space between the bonded surface 4 of the plate member 1 and the lid member 2. This space is filled with the adhesive as shown in FIG. 4B.

(3) the protrusion set forth in claims 18 and 30 means the protrusion 60a, 62a, 140a or 142a, and the protrusions set forth in claims 35 and 39 means the protrusions 40, 60b, 62b, 140b or 142b.

(4) the spacer as set forth in claims 19 and 31 means the spacer 56 or 135. The spacer protrusions means the protrusions 51, 52, 53, 51a, 51b, 131, 133, 134, 131a or 131b.

The examiners approval of the drawing is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 6-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by any of Vaganov (US6406636), Zhao et al. (US20020079219), or Anderson et al. (US20020022261). Also, claims 5 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over any of Vaganov, Zhao, or Anderson. Moreover, claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 9-19 and 26-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being unclear for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 was amended so as to substantially include all of the limitations of original claims 8 and 9 and so as to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in the office action(the rejection with respect to claim 9). Also, claim 21 was rewritten so as to substantially include all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims (claims 1 and 20).

Claims 10-12 and 14-17 were amended so as to depend on the amended claim 1. Also, claims 14-19 and 26-29 were amended so as to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in the office action.

Claims 32-39 were newly added on the basis of original claims 14, 15, 17, 18, 26, 27, 29 and 30, respectively.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 7-9, 13 and 20 were canceled.

Accordingly, it is believed that the amended claims and newly added claims patentably distinguish the invention from the prior art.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in

this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

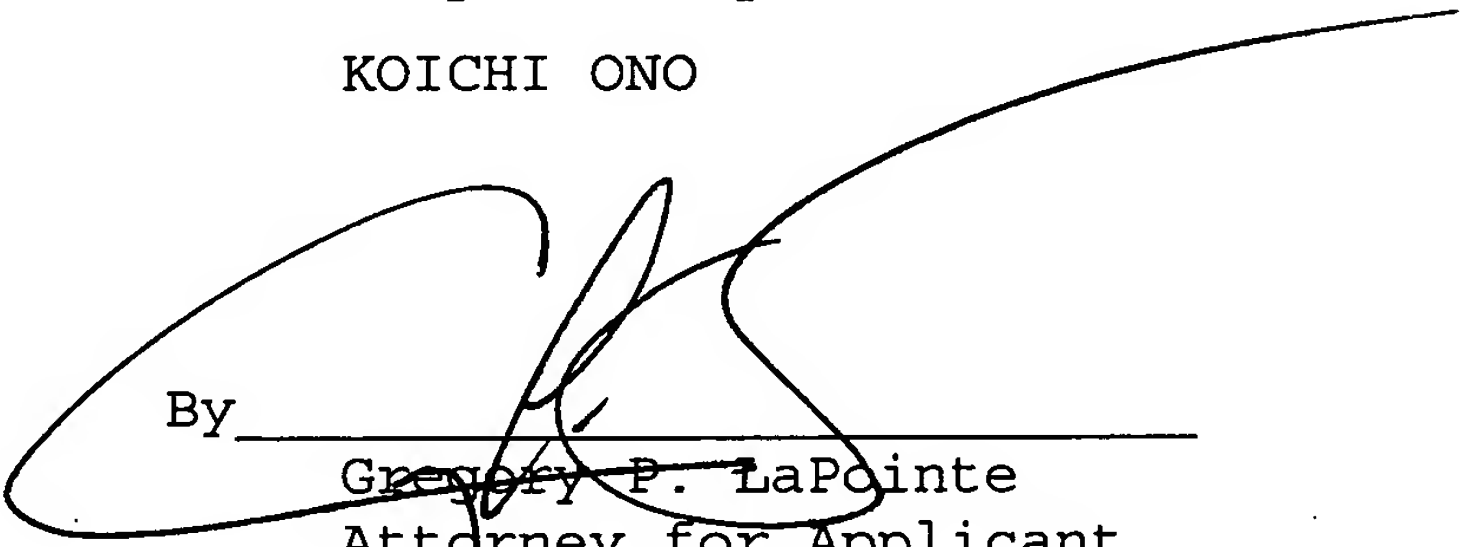
It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

A check in the amount of \$300.00 is enclosed herewith to cover the extra claim fee.

If any additional fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,
KOICHI ONO

By


Gregory P. LaPointe
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 28,395
Tel: (203) 777-6628
Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: January 23, 2006

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on January 23, 2006.

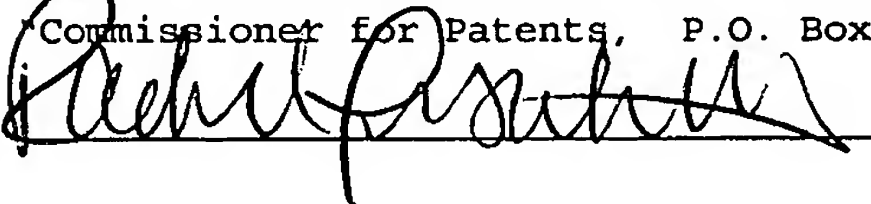


FIG. 19

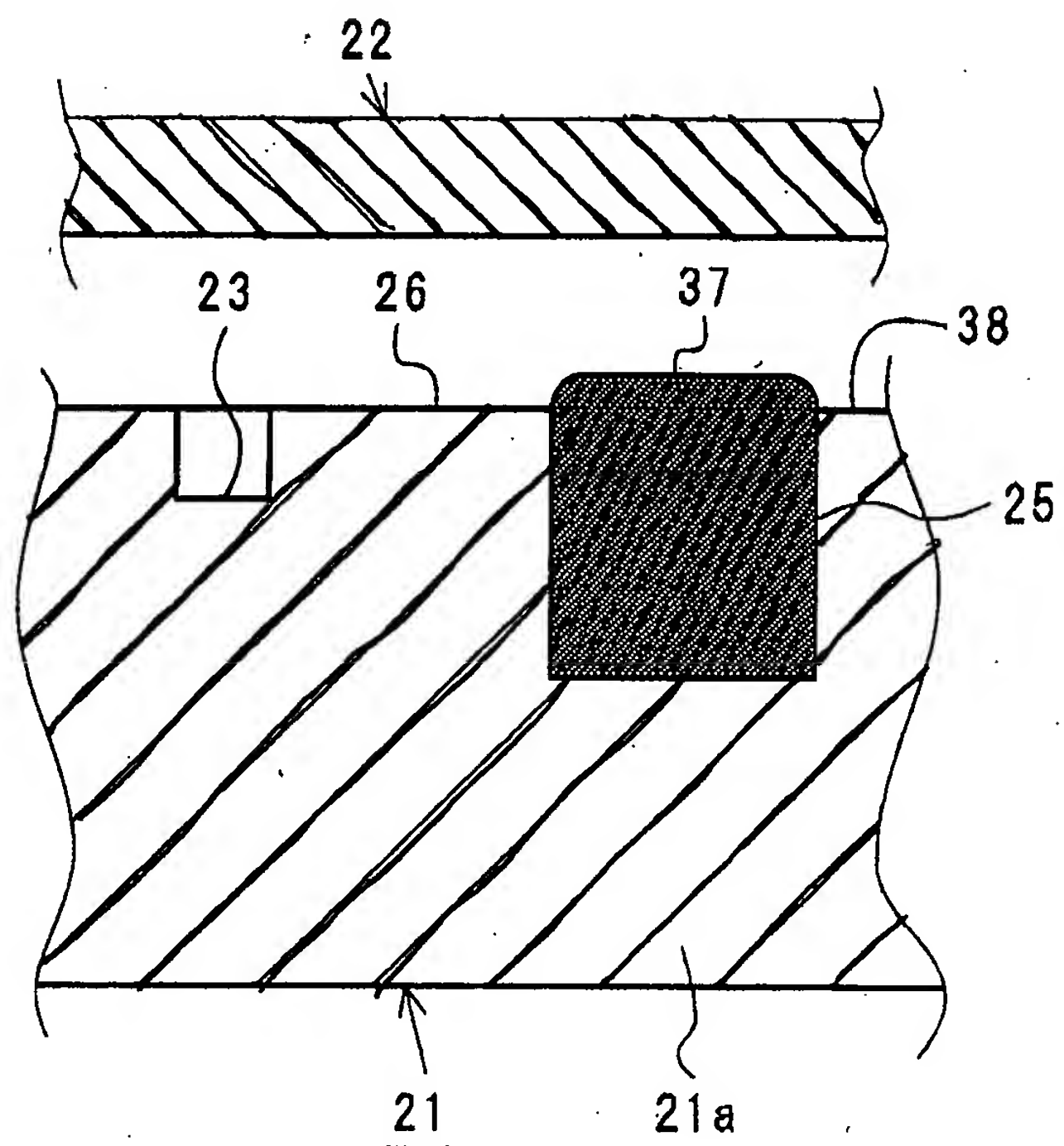


FIG. 20

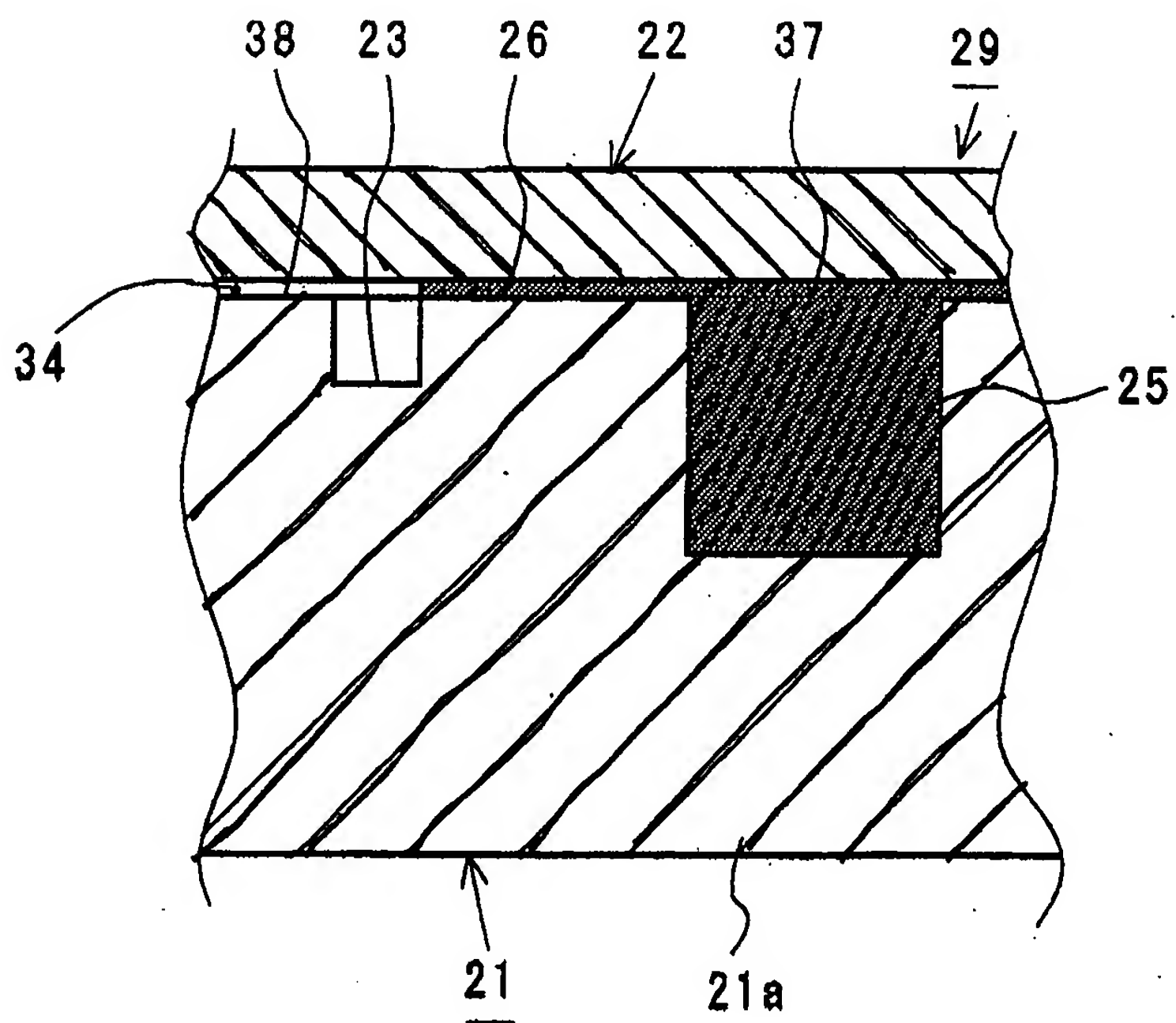




FIG. 21

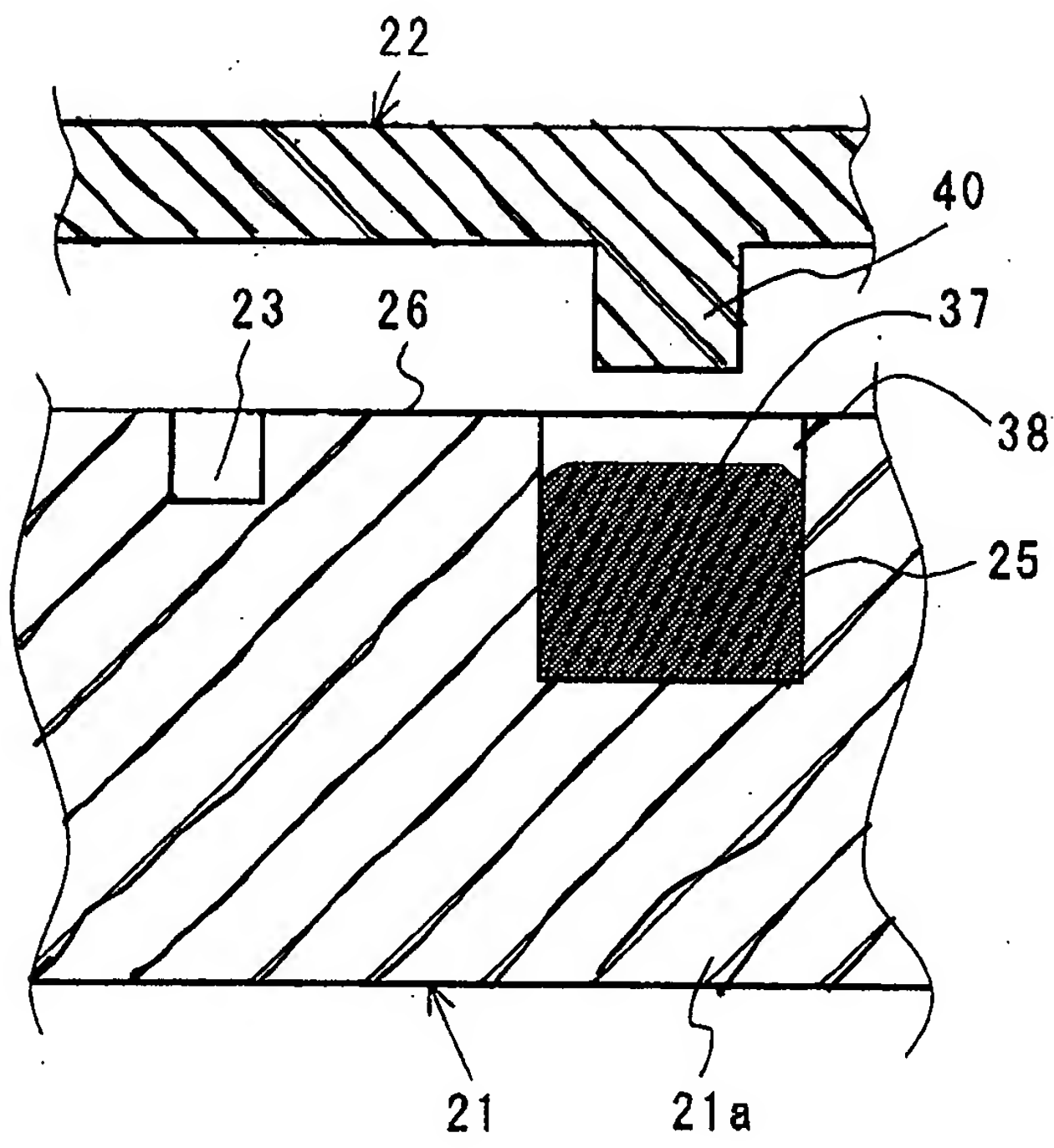


FIG. 22

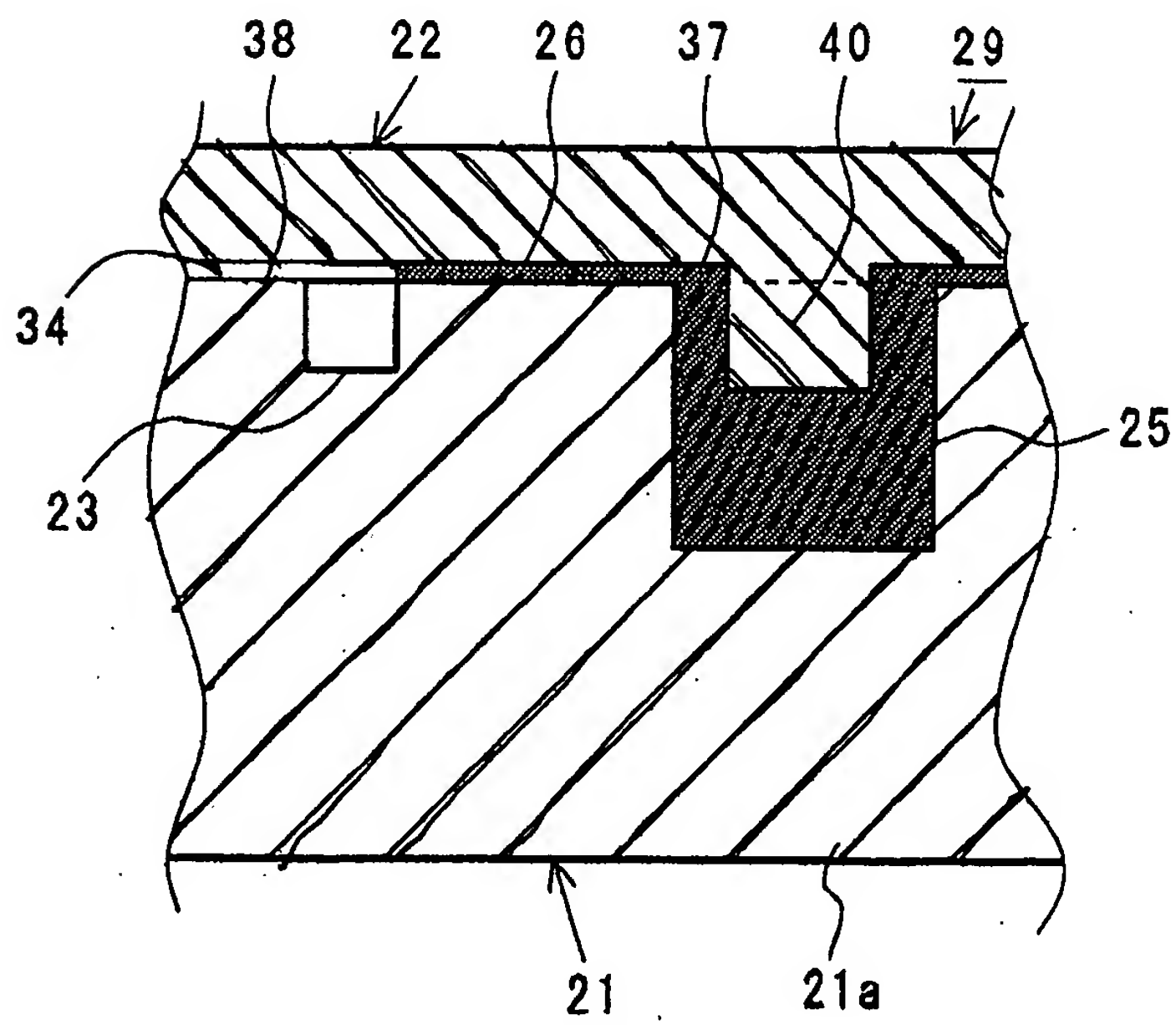




FIG. 25

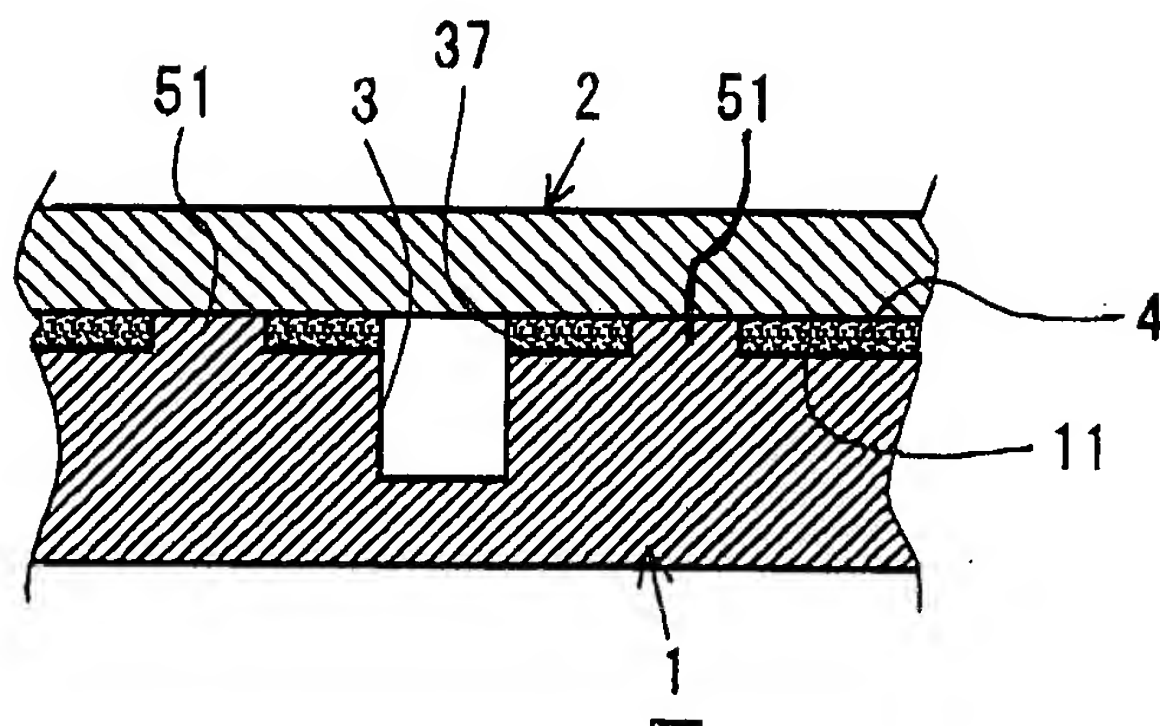


FIG. 26A

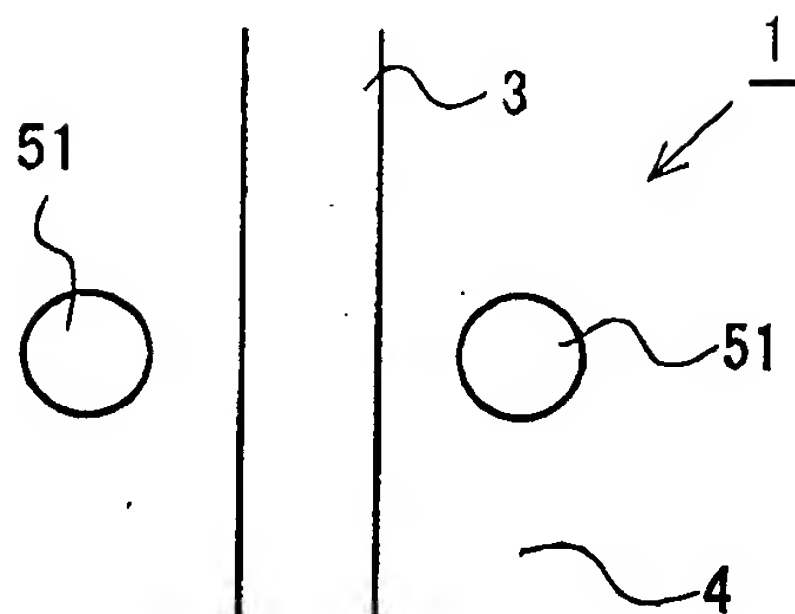


FIG. 26B

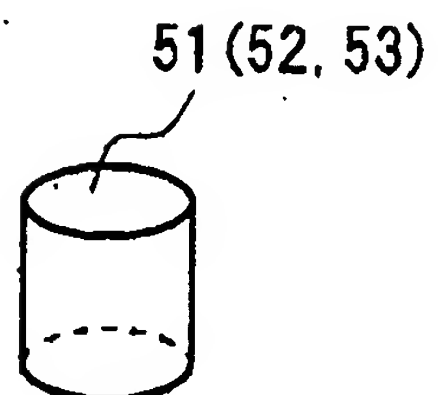


FIG. 26C

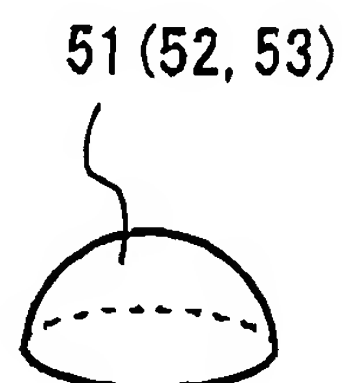


FIG. 52

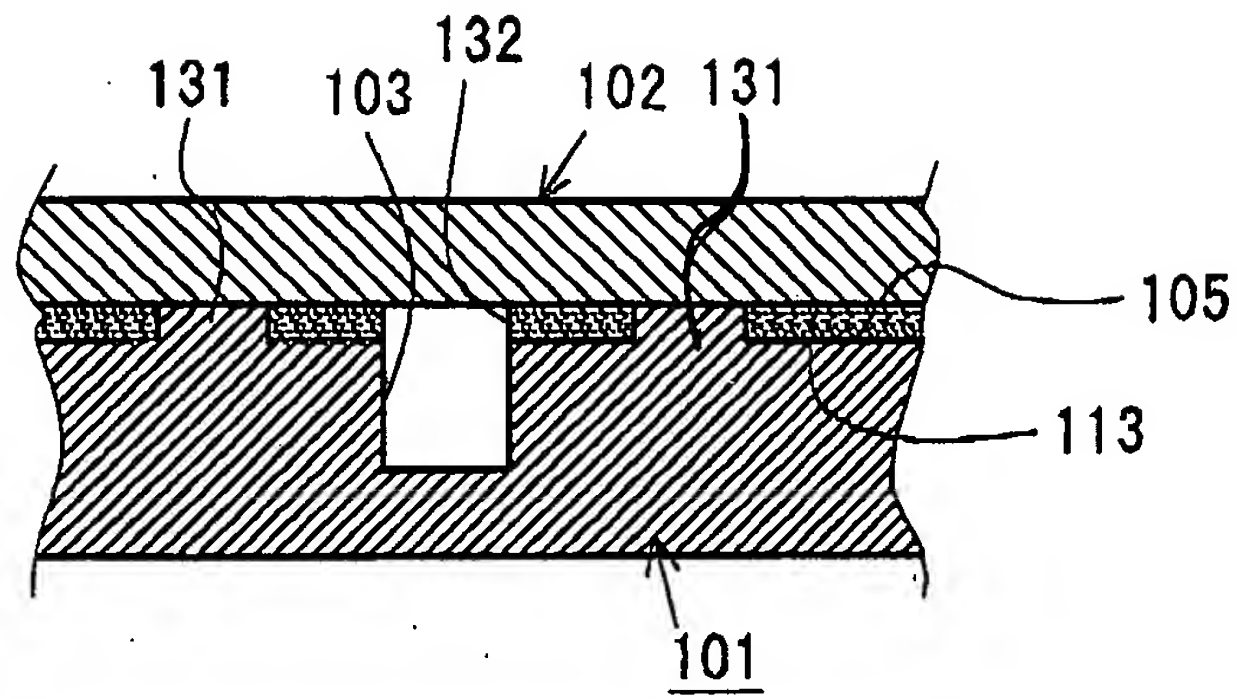


FIG. 53A

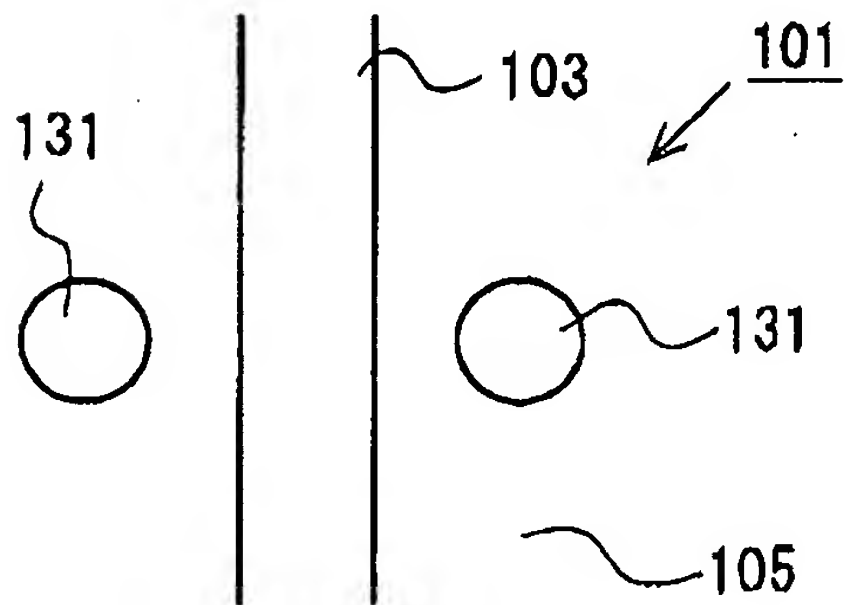


FIG. 53B

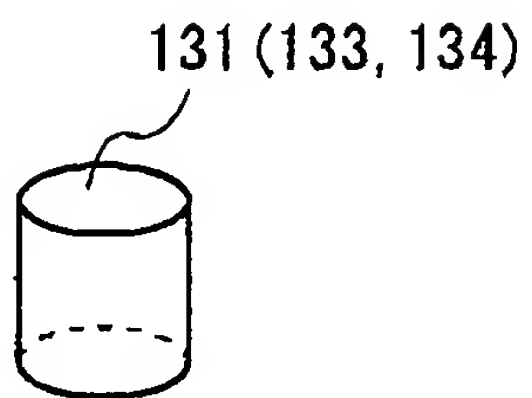


FIG. 53C

